

# CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

PUBLISHED BY PHILEMON CANFIELD, UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE CONNECTICUT BAPTIST CONVENTION.

"WHAT THOU SEEST, WRITE—AND SEND UNTO THE—CHURCHES."

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THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.  
PUBLISHED BY PHILEMON CANFIELD

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## ORDINATION SERMON.

Our readers have been promised some extracts from the sermon of Bro. George Phippen, at the ordination of Bro. J. L. Hodge, at Suffield. The present opportunity is embraced to fulfil this engagement. The sermon is too lengthy to be given entire, and yet the importance of every part, has rendered it difficult to satisfy our own mind in making extracts from it. We have no fear, however, that the portions now laid before the public will be deemed uninteresting to any lover of the truth.

1 Cor. i. 23. "But we preach Christ crucified."

That period when God took upon himself human nature, and appeared on earth in the form of a servant, will be regarded here and hereafter, in time and eternity, as the most important and interesting in the history of the world.

The generations before the flood, and those which followed, had their eyes fixed upon this point, and we in these latter days, look back upon it with subdued and grateful emotions.

The scenes of the manger, the garden, the cross, and the tomb, come home to the soul, and kindle the affection, and rouse the energies of the man of God. They seize upon his whole spiritual nature, and bring over him a hallowed charm, under which he feels "he is not his own, but is bought with a price, even the precious blood of the Son of God."

The single fact that God was manifested in the flesh, for the definite purpose of redeeming lost sinners, or restoring to holiness and happiness the rebellious subjects of his moral government, is, of itself, enough to stamp that period with immortality. But there are other circumstances which give weight and interest to it. As in the beginning of the creation, the spirit of God moved upon the waters, so now, most remarkably, and beyond all former example, the Holy Spirit moves upon the hearts of men. His influences are subduing, quickening, all-powerful. What wonders were achieved by the spirit of God through human instrumentality! The ancient order of things is to be overthrown. A new religion is established, and that religion is to be spread over the world. Human instrumentality is to be employed in bringing about all the great changes which are to precede, and hasten its universal triumph, that instrumentality is in the hand of the Spirit, and is served and directed by his vital influence, and "through God it is mighty to pull down strong holds." 2 Cor. x. 4.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world; against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. vi. 12.

The period of which we are speaking, compared with the ages which had preceded it, was distinguished for literature and philosophical research—Greece stood in the zenith of her glory. She had her orators, her statesmen and her philosophers, she prided herself upon her present acquisitions, and still sought after wisdom. She boasted of her heroes, and wept at the graves of her martyrs.

At this period, the Jews, as a nation, were given up to judicial blindness and hardness of heart. They required a sign—it was a trial of character in them, arising, probably, from the symbolic character of their dispensation; they had been taught by signs—by tropes and figures—types and shadows; their bleeding victims, and blazing altars—the temple in which they worshipped—the ark of the covenant, and the Shekinah, together with the reading of the law, and their daily offerings and sacrifices, were the means of their religious instruction, and these, under God, answered the full purposes of their sanctification and salvation. They required a sign; and had they received no sign? Had they not witnessed the power of Christ over human diseases, and the natural elements, and death and the grave? These all had yielded to his word. And had they not witnessed the holy life of Jesus, and seen him suffering and dying upon the cross? They could not reconcile the humble appearance of Jesus of Nazareth with the prophetic description of their promised Messiah. Nor could they reconcile his mighty power over diseases, and the elements, and death, and the grave, with his subjection and miserable sufferings upon the cross.

As a nation, therefore, they rejected him—they deliberately rejected him—he held them to be an impostor, and persecuted him even to death. Thus much with regard to the period when Christ appeared in the world and offered himself upon the cross, a sacrifice for sin. His name, through faith in his name, was the only remedy to heal and save the world. But such a remedy to the Greeks was foolishness. The same remedy was to the Jews a stumbling-block. In their view, there were monstrous contradictions in the character of Jesus of Nazareth. God and harmless himself, he associated with the sinful and accursed—able to control the natural elements, he was sometimes subjected to their influence, of mean descent, he claimed equality with God—himself the source and fountain of life, he yielded to the death of the cross. What astonishing opposites of character! They were awed—they were confounded, but they would not believe. The preaching of Christ crucified was, and is, to the Jews a stumbling block.

In farther attending to the subject before us, we will consider some of the points upon which the apostles particularly insisted, in preaching the gospel. In general, it may be remarked, they dwelt, with glowing interest, on whatever related to the Lord Jesus Christ—his human and his divine genealogies—the fullness and clearness of prophecy, on his birth, life, sufferings and death. On his miracles—his great humility—his active benevolence—he extreme sufferings, and the agonies of the cross; on his resurrection from the dead, and the strong evi-

dence in support of that fact; the time he remained with his disciples after his resurrection, for their instruction and confirmation in the great truths of the gospel, and his ascension into heaven, and intercession at the right hand of the throne of God.

The apostles were bold in preaching that the Lord Jesus is the only, the all sufficient Saviour—that in like manner as he ascended into heaven, so will he descend a second time, without sin, unto salvation, and become the final Judge of the world.

But I proceed to remark.—There were points of deep interest, on which the apostles dwelt with solemn emphasis.

1. They set before the sinner his true character. They had no delicacy of feeling upon this subject—no drawing back from a course of conduct in this respect, which might subject them to inconvenience and suffering. Full well they knew the sinner must be sensible he is a sinner, before he can feel his need of forgiveness, and that until he feels his need of forgiveness, he will never ask for it. Moreover, the strong desires they felt for the sanctification and salvation of mankind, urged them on to lay open the heart, to bring to view the dark things treasured up in it—its pride and deceitfulness—the evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies, (Mat. xv. 19,) which are there. They would probe the wound to the bottom. If the sinner did fret, and flinch, and groan, and struggle, and gnash upon them with his teeth, they would not desist, but ply themselves the more actively. To feel, they knew to be a sign of life; and if the sinner felt himself to be poor and wretched, and miserable, and blind, and naked, they would direct him to the Great Physician.

Paul, when a prisoner, and in the presence of his judge, reasoned on some points of morality and religion, which he must have known would be highly offensive, because, in all probability, he knew that Felix was both unjust, and unchaste. Yet while Paul was preaching the faith of Christ, he reasoned of righteousness and temperance—so fearlessly and eloquently, and with such solemn and awful reference to the judgment to come, that the Roman governor trembled upon his throne.

Peter charges upon the Jews the murder of the Lord Jesus; and he so charges it upon them as to set before them the full measure of their sin and guilt. Ye men of Israel, hear these words—Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you, by miracles, and wonders, and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know. He being delivered by the determinate council and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands, have crucified and slain. Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; because it was not possible that he should be holden of it. Act. ii. 22—24.

When Stephen was under arrest, upon the charge of blasphemy, he closes his defense by most pointed reference to the sin and guilt of the Jews.—Ye still necked and unmerciful in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost, as your fathers did, sao do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been the betrayers and murderers." Acts viii. 51, 52.

The false teachers who bring into the church damnable heresies, are described by Peter as having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; begetting unstable souls; an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children. 2 Pet. ii. 14.

In his Epistle to the Romans, the Apostle says,—"We have before proved, both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin. As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one. There is none that understandeth—there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way—they are altogether become unprofitable; there is none that doth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre—with their tongues they have used deceit—the poison of asps is under their lips. Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood. Destruction and misery are in their ways; and the way of peace have they not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes." Rom. iii. 9—19.

Blessed is God, there is a remedy for this terrible evil. The preaching of Christ crucified, is that remedy—which leads me to remark, again, that in preaching Christ crucified, the apostles insisted on the following great truths, viz. That the Lord Jesus Christ is the only and all-sufficient Saviour; and that sinners are reconciled to God only by his blood.

This was no new idea to the apostles; they deeply felt their weakness, and the inefficiency of all means in themselves considered.

They relied upon God to give efficiency to his word.

"We have this treasure in earthen vessels,

that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Cor. iv. 7.

*Our sufficiency* (saith Paul,) is of God;

and he lets us know precisely in what light he viewed his labors in preaching and planting churches, and the labors of Apollos in watering those churches. "I have planted; Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then, neither he that planteth nor he that watereth, but God giveth the increase." 2 Cor. iii. 6.

But surely it is not only within the province, but it is the bounden duty of the Christian minister, to declare the threatenings of God against the impenitent as such, and point them to the only Saviour.

In doing this he acts in harmony with the mind of Christ, and according to the principles of his commission. But it is not his expectation that either his most solemn appeals, or any or all of the means he may use, will change the sinner's heart.

Neither mercy nor judgment will do this.

The love and agonies, the prayers and blood of the cross, and the thunders of the Lord of Hosts, on Sinai in the midst of the burning bush, are alike unheeded by the sinner.

The heart is a stubborn thing. O, it is hard as the nether mill-stone—as adamant!

The blood of Christ only can dissolve it; and that blood must be applied by the Spirit of God.

The sinner will yield only as he is constrained; but he is not constrained against his will.

The motions of the Spirit are in harmony with his will. He is constrained by love, and gently and sweetly does he yield to Christ.

This is done, not by might nor by power,

but by the Spirit of the Lord.

That is, not by intellectual nor physical power, the force of persuasion nor the force of arms, but a divine influence.

In the preceding discourse, I have brought before you three distinct points, and have endeavored to illustrate them. These points are, the exceeding sinfulness of mankind—the all-sufficiency of the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Saviour—and the necessity of divine influence to subdue the heart and unite it to Christ, in order to salvation. These were prominent points in the preaching of the apostles.

Some inferences and remarks suitable to this interesting occasion will now close this subject.

I. God's plan of saving sinners is the result of infinite wisdom.

With all their boasted wisdom, how miserably in the dark, and how wretchedly deluded, have been the heathen—even the most learned and polished among them, on subjects relating to God, the origin and nature of moral evil, and the character of the soul.

II. The apostles, as it respects their devoted lives, and their manner of preaching Christ crucified, are models for ministers of the Gospel in all ages.

Of course, they are models for us who are engaged in the work of the Christian ministry. Their time and talents and energies, were given to Christ, so should be ours. They had to do with the souls of men, so have we. They were willing to make every earthly sacrifice, to achieve their object.

The same disposition should at all times and under all circumstances govern us. They were straightforward, thorough-going men, fixing upon their point, and with humble dependence upon God, resolutely pursuing it. Such should be our character.

As they stood aloof from the world and the spirit of it, so should we; and as they supremely sought the same results among ourselves?

If it be so, the character of our city must have changed, and the honorable pledges of continued liberality, which have been so often given, and which stand to

the honor of the Gospel in the present day.

III. The ground on which the sinner is reconciled to God, is so given to it, because

the influence is curious to the best interests of vital piety.

It has seized upon the heart of many a professed minister of Christ, and O! how has it lowered the standard of religion! how has it banished spiritual feeling! and blunted spiritual sensibility! What mists and darkness and death-chills, has it thrown over the soul!

Through what a mistaken and ruinous medium,

blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit, offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works, to serve the living God?" Heb. ix. 13, 14.

The apostles depended wholly upon God for success in the work of the ministry. The end of preaching is to make men holy, and thus fit them for usefulness and heaven. Of this they never lost sight. Of course they adhered to the directions which had been given them by their divine Master, and were careful to regard those directions on all occasions.

Had they practised artifice, and imposed upon the credulity or ignorance of their hearers, or taken advantage of particular circumstances to augment the number of converts, so far they might have achieved their object. But the great end of preaching would have been lost—worse than lost. Or had they depended upon their powers of eloquence.—They had indeed a subject of amazing interest, upon which to display their powers, and no doubt would have succeeded in gaining proselytes and admirers. But the great end of preaching would have been lost.

To admit that the apostles could have pursued any of these courses, or any other than a straightforward, honest course of preaching Christ crucified, in humble dependence upon God for success, would be giving them the lie directly. "We preach Christ crucified—to them that are called, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God." They do not appear to have had any faith in the notion, that in the heart there is naturally a bias favorable to religion; and they appear to be equally incredulous as to the efficacy of means, when unaccompanied by divine influence; notwithstanding they were unrewarded in their exertions, and employed all the means in their power, for the spread of the gospel, yet all they did, they did in humble dependence upon God. They might call the attention of the sinner to the scenes of the garden and the cross—to the Lord Jesus sweating as were great drops of blood falling to the ground—or suspended upon the accursed wood, groaning, and bleeding, and praying, and dying;—they might appeal most solemnly and eloquently from my own heart; let every act of your life, and all your intercourse with man, be a practical comment on the purity of the doctrine you preach. And may God Almighty bless you abundantly through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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WILLIS HOSPITAL, PHILADELPHIA.

Another noble institution of charity, bearing the above name, has recently been founded by the munificence of a citizen of Philadelphia, and thrown open its doors for the admission of the indigent blind and lame, thus adding another monument to the moral grandeur of our country. The institution was opened March 3, 1834, and on the occasion an address was delivered by Joseph R. Ingersoll, and is published in the Philadelphian. A short extract is deemed proper, as it may throw light upon the comparative difference between the expensiveness and profligate waste of European nobility, falsely so called, and the unostentatious manners of Americans, from the head of the government to the private gentleman of (what we call) fortune.

1. "Is a witness bound to declare the truth before a lawful judge? No; if his deposition will injure himself, or his posterity; or if he a priest, for a priest cannot be forced to testify before a secular judge."—Toberna.

2. "If a man conceal another's property, for the support of himself and his family, when asked, he may say that he has concealed nothing. For example—A priest may equivocate before a secular judge, that he is not a competent, lawful authority to receive the testimony of ecclesiastics."—Tamburinus.

3. "It is lawful to use ambiguous terms, to give the impression a different sense from that which you understand yourself. A person may take an oath that he has not done such a thing, though in fact he has, by saying to himself, it was not done on a certain day, or before he was born; or by concealing any other similar circumstance, which gives another meaning to it. This is extremely convenient, and is always very just when necessary to your honor, health, or prosperity. A man who makes, whether sincerely or in dissimulation, a contract of marriage, is dispensed, by any notice, from accomplishing his promise."—Sanchez.

Blasphemy.

4. "By the command of God it is lawful to murder the innocent, to rob, and commit all lewdness, because he is Lord of life, and death, and all things; and thus to fulfil his mandate is our duty."

Treason.

5. "All theologians and ecclesiastic lawyers affirm, that every Christian government, as soon as they openly abandon the Roman faith, instantly are degraded from all power and dignity, by human and divine right. All their subjects are absolved from the oath of fidelity and obedience, which they have taken; and they may, and ought, if they have the power, to drive such a government from every Christian state, as an apostate, heretic, and deserter from Jesus Christ, and a declared enemy to their republic. This certain and indubitable decision of all the most learned men, is perfectly conformed to apostolic doctrine."—Philopater.

These are extracts from the most approved papish writers, and upon subjects which it would be well for the American people to look at. I have means of giving to the public further extracts, and w. l. do so, with your permission, in the further numbers of your paper.

WHOLE NO. 667.

intendence in a body appointed from time to time, by the very corporation of the city itself. No episcopate can materially change the course in which the stream of generosity is designed, it may be hoped, to flow for ages. No storm of party strife can essentially agitate it. No misdirection can be reasonably anticipated; and if it should for a moment occur, it must, of necessity, be merely temporary.

From the Western Recorder.

EXTRACTS.

A Roman Catholic's View of Honesty.

1. A child who serves his father, may secretly purloin as much as his father would have given a stranger for his compensation."—Escobar.

2. "Servants may secretly steal from their masters as much as they judge their labor is worth, more than the wages they receive."—Cardenas.

3. "A man is not bound to restore what he has stolen in small sums, however large may be the total."—Tamberius.

4. "A woman may take the property of her husband, to supply her spiritual wants, and to act like other women," i.e., wives and daughters may steal from their husbands and fathers, to satisfy their confessor-priest.—Garionis.

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from the cause of missions, and the conversion of the world will be viewed, not as a thing to be desired or prayed for, or even attempted, but a *thing to be done*. The man who desires to put himself into it will be self-denying, humble, bearing his life in his hand, prepared for all events.

**China.**—The Ami de Religion contains the following:

"Sinister reports are abroad respecting the missions in Cochin China and Tonquin. The Christians in that country have been subjected to violent persecutions. M. Gagolin, a French missionary, has been arrested, tried, and condemned to death and strangled. Mr. Sacard, another missionary, who was for a long time kept a prisoner at Villa Real, has been sentenced to bear the Cangue, and it is feared will die under the burden. A Spanish monk and two priests, also engaged in the mission, have been condemned to death. The other missionaries have either fled, concealed themselves, or are in prison. The shepherds being thus dispersed, the flock has become an easy prey. Several Christians have been arrested. A General Officer has perished under torture. The king has issued an edict declaring his resolution to annihilate the Christian religion."

## MODE AND EFFICACY OF POPISH BAPTISM.

Chardin, the celebrated traveller, visited the Catholic mission establishment in Mingrelia, in 1672.—While there, he often witnessed the ceremony of baptism, as administered by the priests, whose only spiritual labor was the clandestine baptism of children; this they performed in every house they entered. They did it frequently by calling for water to wash their hands, and then while wet, putting them upon the forehead of the sick, as if to ascertain their disease, or shaking them into the faces of the well as if in sport. For they thought if only a drop of water touched the child while the formula of baptism was said mentally by themselves, it was enough. The child who a moment before was an heir of perdition, thus becomes a candidate for heaven! The priests doubtless believe that it has the same efficacy now, and hence their eagerness to administer it upon persons in the agonies of death.—*Wes. Jour.*

**French Society for the Abolition of Slavery.**—A clergyman put a small tract into the manufacturing establishment of a gentleman of much property and influence. He read it—was awakened—became a follower of Jesus, and went about doing good to his neighbors. He put in circulation 1100 Testaments, and was instrumental of the conversion of two papish priests.

"Behold how great a master a little fire kindleth!" By the distribution of a single tract, an amount of good was accomplished that will operate for the advancement of Christ's kingdom, till time shall be no more. Who is not ready to exert himself, when such success may crown his feeble efforts?—*S. S. Instructor.*

The Editor of the Churchman thus speaks of the Editor of the Catholic Herald:—

"The editor, when he first began to 'report progress,' had the grace to preface any remarks of his own with an 'if we may be allowed,' &c., but he now thrusts himself forward as chief in the controversy. He forgets his place. Our concern is with Mr. Mason, and not the editor of the Herald.—What we said a year ago, we say now, we would as soon argue with a madman, as with the Romans. Our aim is 'to bring them in the mortar,'—to expose, in short and pointed paragraphs, 'their mystery of iniquity' in all the multifarious complications of its deceit and tyranny, and thus do what we can toward the circulation of truth. But we have no fancy for chasing men who live in quicksands; who pretend to believe revealed religion, and yet deny the revelation to be the rule of faith; who affect to reason, and yet reject the testimony of the senses. We consider the Romish system to be

"A monster of such hideous mien,

"As to be hated needs but to be seen,"

and we aim only to exhibit its deformities in plain colors.

The Editor seems hardly to know how to treat us. He affects to be surprised at our distinction between the infallibility and the indefectibility of the church. We believe in his surprise about as much as we believe in the tender mercy of the inquisition. Such talk may do from Mr. Mason, but it won't do from a thorough Romaniot. He tells us of our 'inconsistency,' we promise to give him proof enough of our consistency, but it must be in our own way and not in his. He affects to sneer now at our 'piety,' and now at our 'equal readiness to write on all subjects.' To cure him of uneasiness on the former point, we advise him to read the Bible, and on the latter we commend him to the table of the sour grapes. He sees well enough our folly, he will find we are no more to be diverted from it by the cunning of the Catholic Herald, than by the vulgarity of the Catholic Diary."

## MISSIONARY TO THE FRENCH IN CANADA.

An appeal from the Rev. G. W. Perkins, of Montreal, to the evangelical churches of Switzerland, in regard to the religious wants of Lower Canada, was not made in vain. It reached the heart of the Rev. Louis H. S. Oliver, pastor of a church at Lausanne, Canton Vaud, Switzerland; and he was so much moved by it as seriously to ask the question, Shall I go? Although surrounded by a most pious and attached people, and enjoying the sincere esteem of Christians of many nations to whom he was known, he felt that he could sacrifice all for the sake of the perishing. With the approbation of his wife, a person of kindred spirit, he laid the matter before his congregation, and they, after prayerful consideration, and in the midst of tears, were convinced it was their duty to give up their beloved pastor for the sake of those who are so much more needy than themselves.

It ought to be remembered also, that there is a very great lack of evangelical ministers in France, and Switzerland too, and that this self-denying church is liable to experience great difficulty in supplying the vacancy. Mr. Oliver was taken under the patronage of the Swiss Missionary Committee, and has arrived in New York, with his wife, on their way to Canada. He is about 36 years of age—a man of uncommonly pleasing address—speaks English tolerably; and brings letters testifying what his conversation confirms, that he is richly endowed with the Spirit of Grace.—*N. Y. Evan.*

**Western Reserve College.**—Our brother of the Christian Mirror, is referred to the statements of Mr. Cox, in the W. R. Synod, respecting the non-payment of subscriptions to the college, in consequence of the introduction of abolition principles under President Storrs' administration. If it was right for some New York merchants to withhold contributions to one institution on account of anti-slavery, would it be wrong for others to withhold theirs from another in consequence of the violent expulsion of similar principles?—*Evangelist.*

## From the Southern Religious Telegraph.

**VERY COLD,—IT IS TRUE.**

Bro. Converse,—

To enquire about the state of religion, a very general answer is, "Very cold." Why is this reply given? Those who give it will say, "Because it is true." Well, I suppose it is true. Every body knows who: Christians are in the habit of crying, "Very cold—very cold," will find it true. Listen to them talking one with another, they say no thing about the kingdom of Christ, they are *very cold*.—Ask them a two-faced question, such as, What is the state of things among you? they are sure to understand you to speak about the world; and accordingly will scratch their heads and draw a deep sigh—*ab sine pectore*.—Ah, very dull; corn, flour, tobacco, or cotton, is selling very low, for almost nothing." *Very cold, it is true.* Their thoughts seem to be dwelling principally on the world and its perishings, and they suppose every body else thinks and feels just as they do. But remind them that you are talking about the church, they will look astonished. "Ah! we are very cold." It is true. They cannot well be charged with falsehood on that point. The declaration need no further proof.

But some seem to think that they will warm themselves, and every body around them by the exercise of repeating, on all occasions, "Very cold."—These persons very widely mistake. This expression, and the man who utters it, are two great lumps of ice. They must either be melted, when brought into contact with other articles, or they will freeze every thing else. Let a few in a church begin to cry, "Very cold" and they will soon either freeze the church, or the church must thaw them—they are very cold. Ah! it is very true. When Christians find themselves cold, they should go to the fire and warm, and then go and warm all that seem cold. If any body who is cold reads this—let me say to you, do not make others like yourself—go to the Saviour and have your heart fired with love.—Do not disgrace religion, sin against God, and ruin souls. This is just what you are doing. The world-minded professor of religion does more mischief in his neighborhood than a whole dozen of infidels—He is the devil's most faithful servant.

Yours, in Christian love. S.

**French Society for the Abolition of Slavery.**

About the middle of August, as we learn from Le Seurier, a Society was formed in Paris, for the special purpose of promoting the abolition of Slavery in the colonies of France. It originated among the members of the Chamber of Deputies. The society will act on public opinion by its publications, and thus prepare the way for the adoption of the necessary laws.—*Bost. Rec.*

## From the Christian Gazette.

LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM BRO. KINCAID.

Ava, March 25, 1834.

Dear Bro. Dagg,—

You will probably have received my letter of October last, but since that time, I have received several numbers of the World, which I suppose you forwarded; I have read them with great pleasure, and should be glad to have such a least often. Since that time, I have received one magazine; it is true I have but little time to spare, yet it is exhilarating to take a peep now and then at the doings of the civilized Christian world. It does me good to read the names of those with whom I once associated; to know that they are still alive and laboring on the side of Christ. One whom I loved and greatly respected has gone to his rest. Bro. Jones possessed a most lovely spirit, a clear understanding and a guiltless heart. When the news of his death reached me, which was only a few days ago, I felt distressed; the grief of his beloved wife, and her sorrow, all presented itself before me; he is now in heaven, blessed with the unclothed presence of Jesus, and walking the mount of God along with David, Isha, Paul, and all the redeemed of every land.

Nearly four years have now passed since I left Philadelphia; the time appears very short, every day brings along so much labor, labor too of so much urgency, that I have no time to cherish a desponding thought.

The climate of Ava I find very trying to the constitution. In Maulmein and Rangoon, the nights are cool, and much of the time you have fresh breeze from the sea, but here for about nine months the heat is uninterfered with a single shower of rain, or hardly a breath of wind; after perspiring the whole night, you rise in the morning as much exhausted as when you lay down. Besides, the streets are not paved, and the dust rises in clouds so as to be nearly suffocating. Thousands of the inhabitants have been swept off in a few weeks past, by the small pox; we often see them carrying three persons rolled in one mat, to the place of burning. Some houses near us, where four and five persons live, are now left desolate, all are dead.

In this disease, Burman physicians never administer cathartics, and never allow the clothes to be changed, the patient to be washed, or fresh air to come to his room, and to this course of treatment I attribute the malignant nature of the disease in this country; nine out of ten die before the ninth day. I had four school children taken down with the small pox, and I determined to pursue a different course, though their parents could hardly be controlled; I kept their bowls gently open, had them kept clean, gave them wholesome diet, and kept them constantly in the air; they all did well, being hardly confined at all; these facts excited attention, and many came begging for medicine; having very little of the stock I brought from America, I was obliged to refuse them.

By communications made to the Board, you will learn particulars relative to Ava. Bro. Cutler arrived the 1st of January, and immediately put the press in operation. For ten months, the gospel has been preached publicly, and books to a large amount have been distributed in this city and the neighboring towns. One of the Woon-Gees has often threatened, and twice he has delivered a pretended order from the King, directing me to leave the empire. From other officers of government, I have learned that it was not the king's order, and of course paid no attention to it. The other day we were summoned to the Royal Court, and questioned with much precision. Such things we must expect, but if the door is not shut we will rejoice. We have a number of interesting inquirers; we have a small school for boys, and if we had the things necessary, Mrs. K. and Mrs. C. could have a large school of girls from among the first families in the city.

Will the sisters in your church make up a small box having scissors, needles, thread, thimbles, remnants of chintz, and such like articles? There nothing of the kind can be obtained. If we can get schools going, it will do much towards gaining the confidence of the people, and thus further the cause of Christ.

Four have been baptized, and two others are expected soon. In your supplications before God, plead for Ava, this great city, full of idolatry. I often feel that the time of Burmese's deliverance is near at hand.

As I have had but a few minutes notice of this opportunity for sending letters, you will excuse the brevity of this note.

Remember me affectionately to Mrs. Dagg, and the family, also to other dear Christian friends in Philadelphia. I wish to hear from you all very much; to know how the Missionary Society is prospering, and to learn if new churches are rising up in the middle and western part of the State. I hope to hear that your health continues to improve. In much haste,

From your affectionate brother,

E. KINCAID.

P. S. I wish some good man who understands medicine, would put me up an assortment of good medicines, labelled. I am obliged to give medicines to officers of government almost daily. I have obtained some from Bengal, but it is very expensive.

The request contained in the above note, after the affecting representations which the letter contains of the sufferings of the poor Burmans for want of the medicine which is needful to the body, cannot fail, we think, to arouse some benevolent apothecary to "neighbor" to them. How much good may bro. Kincaid do if he is amply furnished with the means of becoming physician or bodily as well as spiritual malady, beyond what he is now able to accomplish.

—*E. Chr. Gaz.*

From the N. Hamp. Bap. Register

BAPTISM AT NASHUA.

We have the pleasure of informing our readers, that on last Lord's day, Rev. Mr. Nott, of the Congregational Church, was baptized by bro. Pratt, pastor of the Baptist church in that place.

The season must have been one of very peculiar interest, both to the candidate and administrator, for while performing the gospel ordinance, was fulfilled the prediction "the watchmen shall see eye to eye." And may these watchmen lift up their voice in defense of primitive truth; with the voice together they may sing, and, united in the principles of the gospel may they hold out the true light from the walls of Zion.

Although an impartial and prayerful investigation of the subject of baptism, free from prejudice and the influence of baptism, may be somewhat dangerous in the view of many, yet the course is perfectly safe; and, from the fact, that it leads to truth, if rightly followed, we are induced to recommend it to many of our brethren in Christ, who are somewhat disturbed in their own minds, and who are frequently led to almost any expedient, by the perplexing questions of the enquirer, or the candidate for church membership.

From the Chr. Index.

Macedonia, Merri. Co. Sept. 23, 1834.

Dear bro. Mercer,—

The Lord hath done great things for us here in this new part of Georgia, whereof we trust we are glad. A short history of the progress of this refreshing season among our churches may be interesting to our readers. Below, I give you a succinct account of the additions by baptism to the several churches.

The revival began at Bethel, Muscogee Co., and a number not known by me were baptized. Then at Mountain Creek, 69—at Shiloh, 36—at Bethlehem, 61—at Hamilton 50—at Beach Spring 15—at Mount Moriah 40—at Bethel, Muscogee 50—at Columbus 100—at Valley Grove, in Talbot, near 50—at Concord 70—at Union 42—at Talbotton, over 60—at Macedonia, by me, in Merriville, 21—at Calhoun 100—at Fellowship, in Upson, near 30—at Bethesda, near Thomaston, over 70. In all the above towns, I may not be perfectly correct, as some of them I have from the memory of brethren living at those churches; yet many of them are from what I have known as an eye witness.

The work is still going on at the above places. At nearly all of them the meetings have been protracted. The Lord seems to own such efforts; and indeed they seem to supersede entirely the necessary camp meetings, (if under any circumstances, camp meetings are necessary.)

I have attended a number of these meetings. It is pleasing to see the unanimity and good feeling that prevail in the churches. There is more brotherly love among the ministers—more zeal, and more perseverance—and I may say, more faith and good works. The preaching has been plain and sound.

The good old way of "salvation by grace," alone,

I have known as an eye witness.

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Yours truly,  
FORKONDA BESTOR.

## CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, NOVEMBER 8, 1834.

## SOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH IN THIS CITY.

It was judged by many of our friends in this city, last spring, that the providence of God called upon them to open a second Baptist meeting. And being fully convinced that the religious interests of the church and city required such a step, they commenced public worship at Franklin Hall, in May last. Prayer meetings have been held at various times, to seek the Divine direction and blessing in this enterprise; and such has been the encouragement attending it, that it was judged expedient, a few weeks since, that a church should be organized. Accordingly, fifty-two brethren and sisters united in requesting of the church a letter of dismission, for the purpose of constituting a new church. This request was granted; and those brethren and sisters, on Tuesday evening, October 21st, solemnly covenanted to walk together as a church of Christ, by the name of the South Baptist Church in Hartford. At their request, a council was convened at the Conference Room of the Baptist meeting house, Lord's day evening, 26th ult., to examine their proceedings, and, if judged proper, to extend to them the fellowship of the church.

After the usual examination, it was unanimously voted that the brethren and sisters calling themselves the South Baptist Chur ch in Hartford, be recognized as a church of Christ in gospel order. Bro. Davis preached, and Bro. Cookson offered the prayer, at the public recognition of the new church, and also presented the right hand of fellowship. The services were performed in the Baptist meeting house. The sermon was from 1 Tim. iii. 15, "The church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

We copy the concluding remarks of the address, to show the entire harmony and the fraternal spirit by which this new organization has been characterized.

The providence of God seemed to unite with prophecy, in saying, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of their habitation; spare not—lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes"—and his blessing on your incipient efforts inspires confidence in anticipating the happiest results.

It is a cause of joy that this separation is not a schism. It owes not its origin to alienation of affection, or difference of opinion on any subject. We part, brethren, as we have "dwelt together in unity"—in undiminished friendship and unbroken harmony. The pain of separation is mitigated, also, by the facts, that you are still to be in the midst of us; that the location of your intended place of worship is only at convenient distance from ours—that for this contiguity we may still look to you for friendly co-operation in all the general objects of the denomination to which we belong. And as union is power, we trust it will be found that "two are better than one."

I have not time, this evening, to present any encyclopedias, in addition to those which you may infer from the past history of our churches—illustrating and confirming the promise, "A little shall become a thousand, and a small a strong nation." Nor can I impart all the dire counsels which would assist in this moment of thrilling interest to us all—but I cannot afford to pass over a few things essential to your future prosperity in a distinct church of Christ, "Walk in love towards each other—love as brethren; be faithful, be courteous." While your number is small, you will have the advantage of more intimate acquaintance with each other's joys and sorrows. Improve it to draw more closely the bands of paternal affection. "By this shall men know that you are the disciples of Christ,"<sup>1</sup> and may be induced to join them selves to so united, so amiable, and so peaceful a community.

Though your immediate connexion with the church of which you have all been members is now dissolved, yet let not this fact break the "brotherhood between Judah and Israel." Let brotherly love continue between the two churches. Let no jealousy or envies mar our peace and happiness; but let the prosperity of one be regarded as the prosperity of both; the adversity of one the adversity of both. God is able to make us both prosperous, and the uninterrupted harmony of both will be one of the most important means of securing his blessing. "But if we bite and devour one another, we shall be consumed one of another."

You profess to be the church of the living God; he then living members of that church. "As lively stones may you be built up, a spiritual house; take heed lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." Let a warm and active spirit be one of the prominent characteristics of the South Baptist Church.

You profess to be the church of the living God; then serve the living and true God! Let him be constantly worshipped in his temple, "which temple ye are." Be careful to know, by consulting his own word, "how to behave," in this church, and maintain a holy, impartial, healthful discipline.

It is the last appearance to say now and then soul. But now being made with us, united with new Baptist whole that there have What is made with us, males and females and agsins such spirit, I never

the church to have no lessions of means of come for- lassidings the breaking of the waters agent, was It was an this place. ch and all an inter- es of mind and power of al. At one but almost affected. is the last ever appear- to return to say now and soul. But now being made with us, united with new Baptist whole that there have What is made with us, males and females and agsins such spirit, I never

that of their friends, in a young The cir-

suntimmediately fastened deep conviction in her conscience;—and I believe she has since obtained hope. Another young brother, who is now in the Hamilton Theological Seminary, with weeping eyes, requested prayers for an ungodly mother, and brothers and sisters. None of these were present. But since his departure, that mother has become the honest subject, and since that, a fine promising young daughter of his, has obtained hope, and been baptized. Those instances of the prevalence of prayer, might be multiplied; but I must forbear.

But what crowns the whole of all this, is, the work was evidently the work of God. The preaching of the Cross triumphing over all the means, and laying human device and human calculation prostrate in the dust! Never did I apprehend so clearly the meaning of that passage—"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to naught the understanding of the prudent." Yes, my brother, we may carefully and nicely lay our plans of operation, but, unless devised with humility and submission to God, they may all be frustrated. "Order," we know it is said, "is Heaven's first law;"—but what we call order, may be confusion in God's sight,—and vice versa. I make this remark, with reference to the means which God was pleased most to bless amongst us. Preaching, sometimes, seemed to be needless;—but broken prayers, confessions and exhortations, did decide execution.

Yours truly,  
FORKONDA BESTOR.

## General Intelligence.

## Foreign.

From the N. Y. Mercantile Advertiser.

## LATEST FROM EUROPE.

The packet ship Independence, Capt. Nye, arrived last evening from Liverpool, where she left the 24th ult., bringing London papers to the 22d. They furnish no news of importance.

**SPAIN.** From Madrid, we learn that the Procuradores have presented a petition to the Queen, calling on her Majesty to dismiss the Ministers, and to call to office in their stead, Gen. Valdez, and others of liberal principles. The popular voice was decidedly in favor of the recognition of the Royal Loans.

From the German papers, it appears that the Russians are in some degree relaxing in the severity of the measures heretofore adopted towards the unfortunate Poles.

Advices have been received from Naples, to the 27th ult. An insurrection had broken out in Arcadia, which, it was understood, had extensive ramifications in continental Greece.

**MOUNT VESUVIUS.** The most affecting details of a recent eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, have reached us. In a former account, we stated that in Aug. an eruption had taken place, which, on the evening of the 21st, began to subside. On the 27th, 28th, and 29th, new crater opened, and produced ravages awful to contemplate. Thousands of families were flying from their native land, old and young, dragging through heavy masses of hot cinders; 1500 houses, palaces, and other buildings, and 2,500 acres of cultivated land, have been destroyed by fire.

The village of St. Felix has been already abandoned. The lava soon poured upon this place, and in the course of an hour, houses, churches, and palaces, were all destroyed. Four villages, some detached houses, country villas, vines, beautiful groves and gardens, which a few instants before presented a beautiful spectacle, now resembled a sea of fire.

On the 3d inst. nothing but cinders and stones were ejected, and every prospect exude of the eruption being soon at a close. The palace of the Prince of Attavayano, and 500 acres of his land, are utterly destroyed. The cinders fell during an entire night, over Naples, and if they had taken that direction, there would have been an end to that city.

**HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.** A French paper says—"The town and port of Rotterdam have become too small for their population and commenced, but are about to be enlarged." Dutch patriots foresaw that the independence of Belgium would be advantageous to Holland, and that two countries whose interests are so different, would both gain by a separation.

**RESOLVED.** That this convention considers the practice (by no means uncommon) of individuals going from the free to the slave states, and thence becoming the holders of slaves, as a crime against God of a deeper dye than if they had been born and educated in the midst of slavery, and deserves the unqualified condemnation of every friend of liberty and religion.

Unanimously adopted.

**ON MOTION OF REV. MR. POMROY,**

**RESOLVED.** That while this Convention are fully cognizant any unkind or unchristian language which may have been used by any of the friends of emancipation or their opponents; that we disclaim all responsibility in regard to such language, and sincerely hope that "all bitterness, and wrath, and clamor, and evil-speaking," may be utterly abolished, with all uncharitableness.

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